GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2433
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2000
IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS UNDER OGL
ANIL BASU

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether import of agricultural commodities have been allowed under Open General Licence;

(b) the details of commodities and quantity thereof during the current financial year (month-wis

(e); and

(c) the effect of this import on the domestic prices of agricultural commodities?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) Agricultural commodities are classified under Chapters 1 to 24 of ITC(HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items. There are 1394 agricultural items listed in these chapters. Import of 781 items out of these is freely allowed at present. The details of the commodities and the import policy thereof are available in the book titled `ITC(HS) Classifications of Export and Import Itemsànd the notifications issued from time to time. Copies of the said book are also available in the Parliament Library.

(b) Item-wise data regarding imported quantity of all the commodities are compiled by Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics(DGCI&S), Calcutta, and published in the book titled `Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India, Vol.I-Imports`. The latest statistics are available only for the period upto February, `99.

(c) Domestic prices of Agricultural Commodities, like those of any other commodity, depend on a large number of factors having a bearing on the demand and supply of that commodity. Hence it may not be possible to precisely assess the effect of imports on the domestic prices of agricultural commodities. However import duties are adjusted suitably whenever any adverse impact of imports is noticed in respect of agricultural sector.